



Introduced Version

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 5

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION encouraging the Family and Social Services Administration to continue efforts to develop systemic, comprehensive professional development and education for direct support professionals, such as the INTrain Project, and to support efforts to obtain funding.

Lawson C

January 5, 2010, read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Provider Services.

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 5

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION encouraging the Family and Social Services Administration to continue efforts to develop systemic, comprehensive professional development and education for direct support professionals, such as the INTrain Project, and to support efforts to obtain funding.

Whereas, Direct support professionals are the primary providers of publicly funded long term support and services for thousands of individuals with developmental disabilities in Indiana;

Whereas, A direct support professional must build a close, trusted relationship with an individual with disabilities and ensure that basic health and safety needs are met as well as provide support to address daily living needs;

Whereas, A direct support professional provides essential support to help keep an individual with disabilities connected to family and community, to live meaningful, successful lives, and to avoid more costly institutional care;

*Whereas, Federal and state policies, as well as the Supreme Court in *Olmstead v. L.C.*, 527 U.S. 581 (1999), assert the right of an individual with disabilities to live in his or her own home and community;*

Whereas, The majority of direct support professionals are employed in home and community-based settings, a trend that is projected to increase over the next decade;

Whereas, There is a growing, documented critical shortage

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of direct support professionals in most communities throughout Indiana;

Whereas, Many direct support professionals are forced to leave jobs due to inadequate wages and benefits resulting from the funding and reimbursement structure for services, creating high turnover and vacancy rates that research demonstrates adversely affect the quality of support to individuals with disabilities; and

Whereas, Over the last few years, through the leadership of the Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services, Indiana has taken a leadership position in designing and piloting a Direct Support Professional Development Initiative that seeks to educate and train direct support professionals as a crucial element in promoting quality services for individuals with developmental disabilities and an important component in their quality of life: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly encourages the
- 2 Family and Social Services Administration to continue efforts to
- 3 develop systemic, comprehensive professional development and
- 4 education for direct support professionals, such as the INTrain Project,
- 5 and supports efforts to obtain funding for the same.
- 6 SECTION 2. That copies of this resolution be transmitted by the
- 7 Secretary of the Senate to the Secretary of the Family and Social
- 8 Services Administration.

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